

VGA MINUTES FOR Q. 3 2023

Members present include: Rusty Silverman, Danny Campos, Warren Meehan, Tom Hecoeks, Jim Cox, Lloyd Snively, Dan Christiansen, Tom Hebert and Ben Huges. Ron Amstutz, Jeff Currie John Adair and Mark Alway were not in attendance.

Meeting start time @ 7:05 PM, August 30, 2023, Ajo Al's on N. 16th Street, Phoenix, AZ.

On-Going Business Items:

1. Treasury Report – Ron:

Report to be submitted at a later date. Treasurer is on vacation.

2. Larry and Danny's Q. 3 2023 Schedules have been uploaded to the website. Q. 4 2023 venues are currently being negotiated. Completion expected soon after this board meeting.

3. Club Championship set for October (7th & 8th) at the Prescott Country Club. Invites for the tournament have been sent out via Golf Genius.

4. VGA's LLC with the State of AZ is status quo. All dues are up to date. Still waiting on recognition from the IRS as a non-profit entity. *No action required.*

5. Two-Man Best Ball Update: Treasury donates \$200 to each tournament. Treasury donation will be paid out on percentage basis as follows: 50%, 30%, 20% for top 3 low net teams only.

6. Establishing Committees. Tournament Committee. Handicap Committee. Rules Committee. Reason: Avoiding our board collectively makes decisions for these committees. Hold an annual meeting the fourth quarter of every year and invite the entire membership. Members can offer their ideas on how to make the club better. Elect officers in front of the entire membership. *No action taken*

7. What to do with stagnant prize money. Our rule is keeping stagnant prize money for 30 days. Cash on Wednesday has been in the bag since April. Discussion. Solution. Notify those members via email that the VGA is holding prize money. The member has up to 30 days to respond on how they wish to be paid, i.e. Venmo, Zelle, Apple Pay or by being present at a golf tournament. If the member does not respond in 30 days from the time of notification, the prize money will be forwarded to the Treasury. No motion was presented but will be further discussed at the next quarterly meeting.

New Business Items:

1. How Golf Genius is utilized to communicate with the membership. Only authorized board members (officers) and tournament directors may utilize Golf Genius without President approval.
2. New E-mail accounts set-up by Tom Hebert. Tom to discuss. *The VGA is moving to another communication server. There are three emails including: Web@valleygolfers.com utilized by Tom Hebert and Harley Ewing. Wednesday@valleygolfers.com utilized by tournament directors and Saturday@valleygolfers.com utilized by tournament directors. The administration / website address is mail@valleygolfers.com.*
3. Discuss the minimum 6,000-yard rule and the accompanying course slope/rating. Clarification. Tournament Directors will select the proper base tees first based on yardage and then by slope. If a base tee is well-under 6,000 yards but a slope of over 125, the base tee with a 125 slope will be selected. Troon North – Pinnacle, Copper Tees is a perfect example. 5,821 Yards with a Slope of 127 versus Silver @ 6,198 Yards and a Slope of 132. *No action taken.*
4. Speed of Play: Do we want to establish club policy and add it to the By-Laws. As an example: If a player is determined to be excessively slow (not on account of searching for a ball) by his foursome, then by consensus of the foursome, the foursome should first assess the slow player a warning. If the slow play persists, by consensus, the foursome can assess a 1-shot penalty. Reasons: Pace of play is not only important for tournament directors in finalizing a tournament but most importantly for the golf course's business of moving their daily tee sheet forward in a time-efficient manner and the VGA maintaining a positive reputation with golf course management. Discussion. *Board will post a message to its membership regarding pace of play at a very near future date.*
5. Do we want to consider capping our membership this year at 175 to 180, and increase it next year? Discussion: *Motion by Tom Hebert to cap the VGA membership at 180 through the 4th Quarter 2023 and a review of membership numbers every quarter thereafter. Seconded by Lloyd Snively. All board members voted unanimously in favor.* Reason for the motion: Course Coordinators typically book 7 to 8 tee times for both Wednesday and Saturday events. If membership numbers increase too significantly, it could place undue pressure on our tee times. Coordinators and the board will assess sign-up activity over the 4th Quarter to determine if capping our membership numbers is appropriate moving forward. In addition, if there is a persistent waiting list to play, especially on Saturdays, the Saturday Course Coordinator will ask for more tee times moving forward.

6. Rusty Silverman updated VGA by-laws. Rusty to discuss revisions. Board approved all revisions to the By-Laws including the following:
 - a. Article I – Narrative validating the VGA with the State of AZ.
 - b. Article III – Section 9.1. Detailing and defining membership conduct.
 - c. Article IV – 7. Annual 10-round rule for a board member to remain on the board and by the board's discretion.
 - d. Article VI – Amendment to the By-Laws. In order to qualify for the board, a potential board member must be in good standing for a minimum of 5 years or by the discretion of the board. See Item 7 below.

7. Motion by Rusty Silverman because this is not in the By-Laws and needs to be included therein: In order to be a board member, it is a requirement that the VGA member be in the league a minimum of 5 years. Seconded by Warren Meehan. All board members voted unanimously in favor.

8. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM. *Motion to adjourn by Danny Campos. Seconded by Lloyd Snively. All members voted in favor.*